VIETNAM

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1968, A YEAR OF UNPRECEDENTED VICTORIES OF SOUTH VIET NAM'S REVOLUTIONARY FORCES

South Viet Nam PLAF Command's Dec. 20, 1968 communiqué (Excerpis) *

VICTORIES IN ALL FIREDS.

Wine military field, according to still incomplete figures, the revolutionary forces inflicted on the enemy

— inflicted on the enemy 630,000 casualties including more than 230,000 U.S. and satellite troops. Besides, hun-dreds of thousands of puppet troops deserted or were disdeserted or were

bandes; — wiped out or heavily decimated one brigade, 7 regiments and multi-battalion units, 187 battalions, 18 armour squadrons and over 750 U.S., satellite and puppet

-shot down, destroyed on the ground or damaged 6,000 aircraft of various kinds;

- destroyed or damaged ,500 military vehicles in-uding more than 7,000 cluding more than 7,000 tanks and armoured cars; - sank or set afire 1,000 vessels, combat launches or

verses, compat same as of which with a displacement capacity of 10,000 tons or more; - wrecked over 1,100 artil-

lery pieces; - set ablaze more than - set aplace more than 700 ammunition storages or fuel dumps.

dumps : blew up over 700 bridges; - and razed to the ground or forced the enemy out of 1,500 military sub-sectors and posts.

far surpess those in 1960 and 1987 put together. In partic-ular, the number of U.S. troops wiped out in 1968 nearly equals that for the whole 1961-1967 period.

whole 1051-1957 period. These figures spell out the great successes of the South Viet Nam libration forces and people in a one-year period. They are all the more significant since they were recorded at a time when the enemy still had more than one million U.S. and puppet troops. What is remarkable in that all the hadden examilations and the state of the second of in that all the crack units of the enemy have taken casual-ties of fifty per cont of their strength upward. All the cities and towns in South Viet Nam including Saigoo, the last hide-out of the one-

again.

Almost all of the enemy nerve organs from central to grassroot levels suffered heavy losses. All the vital communication lines of the enemy were repeatedly attacked or cut off.

am

All the three kinds of our armed forces the regular army the regional and guarilla fer-ces-have grown up in the course of the fighting and building. Thair course of the fighting and building. Their successes have been on the increase in size and in number on all battlefields, in the highland area, the plains as well at cities and towns. They defeat we completely defeat-the two-pronged "scarch-d-destroy" and "pacifi-

cation" plan of the enemy and foiled all their strategies tactics as well their opera-

Recember 30

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5th Year

tions.
On the political plane, the widespread uprisings of our people are a momentous and creative outcome of the fierce and dauntless progress of the South Viet Nam revolution. Tens of millions of our people have resolutely risen up to win back the right to be matter of the country. sters of the country.

The development supplies the meet eloquent ex-pression of the heroic stand and earnest aspiration of our entire people who had rather die than be enslaved and who prize independence and free-dom more than anything else.

Our people's great uprisings re credited with the liberaare created with the libera-tion and complete control of more than 1,000 additional banlets. Over 2 million more people have been freed people have been freed from the enemy's grip. Revolu-tionary power has been est up, in many villages, districts and provincess, which politi-city at 5. puppers, shafter-ing their control by big-chusks, and knocking ell the "legal and constitutional" variate of the pupper reac-tion which, in fact, represents

(Continued bare 2)

" Sub - heads and emphases are ours Ed.



The Viet Nam People's Army, founded on Dec. 22, 1944, is now 24 years old. Photo : An infantry unit on the move.

PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH'S MESSAGE

TO THE AMERICAN FRIENDS WHO OPPOSE THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS' WAR OF ACCRESSION IN VIET NAM

ON the occasion of New Year 1961), I would like to extend to you my most cordial wishes for prace and happiness.

In the past year, the I'.S. government had to unconditionally the bombing of the Democratic bilis of Viel Nam. That is a good victory common to whole Vietnmene people, the progressive people in inited States and the peace- and justice-loving lores. the whole in the world

However. the U.S. vuline encrose time on the severagety and security of the Demo-cratist throughte of They Nam. In South Viet Nam, they intensify the war of agression, impelling over half South Viet Nam, they impelling over half massacre the civilian is crimes. But the more Viet Nam and maintain million young Americans to a million young amounting monitrost erimes rise unpopulations, munitain monitrost erimes rise unolduntial of the classes Such viet Nam and ministain
is poure that a Suley Support, he more the impair the
interests of the United State,
makes death on the Viet

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Is your control on honourable solution is to without all the solution for the United States, the copie on honourable solution is to without all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet. Name and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves the transfer of a solution of the South Visit Nam National, Front for Liberation, without any foreign interference.

The Victuamses people, having gone through over liventy years of uninterrupted wer, deeply cherish peace, a peace is genuine independence and freedom. But in long as their country is subjected to aggression, they are determined to fish on the lost victory. With the inventible strength of fish on the lost victory. country is subjected to agreession, they are alternined to fight on till total victory. With the ununcible strength of their national untily, and the wearn subport of their bothers and friends in all continents our prophs are sure to attain their objectives: to liberate the South, to detend the North, to proceed to the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland, thereby contributing to the maintenance of peace.

in Asia and the world. In Asia and he work of the courageous struggle of our American friends whatever the colour of their skin, to demand that the U.E. government stop the aggressive war in Viet Nam.; that is a struggle which while supporting our people's existence light, defend the interests and however of the American people and subgueral the life of their boys.

I wish you jurther successes in this just struggle. Good health and good luch for the New Year.

HO CHI MINH

NEL AND DRVN DELECATIONS' JOINT COMMUNIQUE on U.S. Puppets' Holding Up Paris Conference

HE delegation of the South
Viet Nam National
Front for Liberation led
by Mr. Tran Bus Klem and
the delegation of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam led by Miniser Xuan Thuy to the ouablic of viet was first by same-ter Xuan Thuy to the qua-dripertite Paris Conference on Viet Nam on December 24, held talks at the seat of the delegation of the NFL. The two delegations published on December 25, the following

1. After U.S. President
L. Johnson was compelled
on October 31, 1968 to declare the unconditional cessation
of bombardments on the
whole territory of the DRVN
ond at the arms time. whole territory of the DRVN
made at the same time, proponed that the Paris conference
or Viet Nam be held on
November 6, 1968, the
government of the DRVN
and the Central Committee
of the South Viet Nam N.F.L.
respectively well of the South Viet Nam N.F.L.
respectively and November 3, 1960
or 1960
or

struggle for independence and freedom, and accepting to participate in the four-delegation Paris conference including the DRVN, the South Viet Nam. NFL. the DRVN, the South Viet Nam. NFL. the Control of the Conference in the Saign administration, by means of tortuous arguments, refused to seed its representatives to the Conference in arguments, relused to self-discrete representatives allocations of the programment of the DRVN and of the NFL pro-formed with this situation, the DRVN and of the NFL pro-of the U.S. that the three delegations already present in Paris shoold start the conference and the present of the U.S. that the three conference and the Selgon administration would join in as soon as they arrived in Paris. The U.S. however, did therefore over one month has different ordered the present of the present the

(Continued page 7)

1968, A YEAR OF UNPRECEDENTED VICTORIES OF SOUTH VIETNAM'S REVOLUTIONARY FORCES

nobody. Even in its jalancy, the people's revolutionary nower is full of vitality, and brilliantly vindicates the superiority of a revolutionary wer of the people and for

The emergence of the Viet Nam Altience of National, Democratic and Peace Forces has given the national front against U.S. aggression, for national salvation a substan-tial push forward while fur-ther aggravating the isolation of the enemy and causing, deeper splits in their ranks, tional salvation a substan narrowing down their politiof cruel agents with many blood debts to our people, a clique of dirty reactionaries who depend for their survival on the U.S. imperialists anco-colonialist policy.

For North Vist Nam, the year was also a year of tremendons achievements, ith the people and arm destruction, shooting down over 3,250 modern U.S. sir-craft, and finally forcing the U.S. into the unconditional United States: contradiction between the weakening puppet army and its duty of taking over the barden of the war; cessation of all air, naval and artillery bombardments on the whole DRVN territory. ntradiction between concentration and dispersion of forces respectively to defend the towns and pacify the countryin the diplomatic field, the side; contradiction between the ambitious designs of the ag-gressors and the sinking mo-

year have had wide repercus-sion in the whole world and in the United States itself. The South Vietnamess peoiron-like determination enlisting more sympathy from millions of people of different races and languages.

Under the impact of the Under the impact of the south Vietnamese people's enduring siruggle the U.S. has been forced to agree to negotiate with the MFL in Paris. The NFL has been enjoying wholehearted supwho see in it the inspirer, organizer and leader of the South Victnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, the spokesman of the South Viet Nam people's aspirations for peace and independence, the authority fully competent to see to all matters related the political settlement of the South Viet Nam issue. On both the diplomatic front and the battlefield, the N.F.L. - genuine representative of the South Victnamese people—in pressing attacks on the U.S. imperialists— chieftain of imperialism— while the whole progressive mankind including the peacemankind including the peace-and justice-loving people in the United States, is milita-ting for an immediate and to the U.S. war of aggression and the pull-out of all U.S.

IMPORTANT SIGNIFICAN-CE OF THOSE VICTORIES

1 - THE great and all-sided Fig. great and all-sided victories in tool have brought about for the South Victnamese people a new strategic position and endowed them with a new strength and a new ability. They have given an impetus to the combined strength of the people in the new mili-

tary situation, and have given rise to new and favourable opportunities for the continuation of the general offen-sives and widespread upri-sings till complete victory.

3. — The Viet Nam people's considerable and comprehen-sive achievements have dealt a mortal blow at the Salgon pappet administration, ren-dering its fabric looser, and making its doom all the more The dramatic changes in the war situation have found a following points:

gressors and the stating mo-rale and low combat efficiency of both U.S. and puppet troops who get disgusted with the war and want peace now; contradiction between the political objectives of neo-

plonialism and the barbarous

Outwardly the enemy's de-

tensive perimeter looks firm enough, with layer after layer of defensive lines. But

in fact it is vulnerable, and

repeated attacks, and conti-

nual strategic encirclement on the whole battlefield, es-

Militarily, the enemy's stra-

tegic posture is brought about by the over-all weakness of

by the over-all weakness of position and difficulties of the U.S. in the political, eco-nomic and diplomatic field in Viet Nam, at home, and elsowhere. This has placed the enemy on the horns of a

dilemma, making it impor

sible for him either to attac

sible for him either to attack or to hold his ground. If the U.S. stubbornly persists in its war, it will not escape heavier and more humiliating

The great, all-sided victories won by the South Vietnamese people and their

armed forces in the past year have triggered off serious upheavals in the U.S., and

conditioned the failures of

warmongers right on the

States. Divergences have been growing between the U.S. people and the U.S. govern-ment, between different

ruling circles and even among government officials of the

more and more isolated in the world and more alienated from even its allies apart

fearn innumerable economic

pecially in urban areas.

The enumy are bogged down neck-deep in their defamive strategy in South Vist Nam. Before he had had Under the impact of the inslaughts of South Viet Nam's onslaughts of South viet Nam's revolution, the confusion among U.S. puppet ranks has increased, and so have the differences among the traitors. By atopping up pressganging, repression, looting, the enemy time to redeploy after the failure of his 1968 "search-and destroy" and "pacifiand destroy" and "pacifi-cation" plaus he had to switch abruptly to the passive" hold-and clear" strategy which has lly stepping up pressgangure, persession, looking, the enemy is directly harming the inter-rests of many strats of the people, thereby exacorbating their harder and strengthen-ing their needs of overthrow in already are for allowed and their and their saunder by thousand per-senting their strategy and their saunder by thousand perbeen receiving crushing blows right from the beginning and is torn by internal contradicions : contradiction between the purpose of the aggressive war — to defeat the opponent by military offensive — and the present defensive strategy contradiction between the role conal ambitions. of U.S. troops now bearing the brunt of the war and the need 4. - The South Vietnamese to "de-Americanize" the war

4. The South Vienamese people's victories give a strong fillip to the world revolutionary movement especially to the struggle of the people against imperial-ism, first and foremost first U.S. ism, first and toremost against U.S. imperialism. They have brought home to the world's peoples with greater force that under present-day historic conditions, a nation, small but united and having small but united and saving a sound political line, a closs-ly-keit organization and a firm resolve to fight for independence and freedom, is fully capable of defeating any colonialist or imperialist rmy of aggression.

3 - The Viet Nam people's

nrmy of aggression.

The movement against U.S. aggression and in support of Viet Nam has spread to all parts of the world and in the United States as well where the front against the ruling circles and in support of Viet Nam is broadening.

THE above brings out in bolder reliof the magnitude of the successes scored by South Viet Nam revolutionary forces in 1968. The significance of their victories lies in the fact that the results of a long and ardness struggle, the fruit of sustained and unusual ofof sustained and unusual er-forts and of lofty and in-mease sacrifices of the entire South Vietnamere people; they are a vivid illustration of the undauntedness of the Vietnamese nation.

These victories are of spe-These victories are of spe-cial significance in the sense-that the Vietnamese people and armset forces not only dure to light up the sense have to light against the most up-to-date attention was those and incodern was those of the present capitalist world.

Bygone is the time when mperalism ruled the most ver the five continents. The chieftain of the imperialists— the U.S. imperialists— it unable to reverse the wheels of history. Viet Nam's vic-tory-over the U.S. imperialist has filled with pride and self confidence not only the Vietnamese people but also the whole progressive

DRVN during the first half of Dec. 1968 were da-nounced by the Commission for Investigation of the U.S. Imperialists' War Crimea in Viet Nam in a most recent and financial difficulties which exert a deteriorating influence upon the already unstable political situation.

The communique pointed out that while in South Vist Nam, the U.S. was speeding up its "accelerated pacification" programme which destruction, especially with B52 raids, and berding of the B52 raids, and perding of the people into disguised concentration camps, in North Vest Nam it intensified provocations and more blatant violations of the sovereignty and security of the DRVN and committed new crimes.

HE U.S. continued acts

The U.S. acts of war in this period were characterized by the following:

State farm and 3 villages in Vinh Linh area, 17 villages in Quang Binh, one in Ha Tinh, one in Nghe An.

1. Quang Mah on Dec. 4. 7, 8, 9 and 12, U.S. planes flew 29 attacks with demolition and steel-pellet bombs against 17 villages in 5 districts (out- of a total of 6 districts (out of a total of 6, districts) killing 3 people, wounding 55 others, des-troying 30 houses and other There were 9 strikes on Dec. 7 alone and 7 cm Dec. 9. On Dec. 7 in two raids on Nghla Ninh village, 4 "Phantons" released 8 demolition and blast bombs killing 5 people, wounding 8 others, most of them women and old folks, and burning down 15 houses. On Dec. 9, at 10 hours, 2 F.4s dropped 4 CBUs on Canh Duong village, Quang Trach

U.S. steps up provocations against DRVN in December First Half

t Intermilication of reconaissance flighte.

430 sorties of manned and robot planes conducted 345 spy missions over 24 provin-ces, cities in the north and ces, cities in the north and Vinh Linh area as compared with 140 sorties in the first 15 days of Nov. 1658. The lowest figure was 15 missions on December 5 while the highest, 44, was reached on Dec. 15. In the area stretching from Ngbe An to Ben Harliver, there were as many as 200 spy sorties carried out by U.S. planes. Hanol airsnee was violated 4 times. violated 4 times, pace was violated Haiphong's 3 times.

2. Attacks against populous areas, new crimes in Queng Binh, its Tinh, Nghe An and Vinh Linh area.

Vinh Mak sees.

On the strength of such arbitrary declarations as "using many means needed as the sun of the s rockets, and somm shells ...

district, making 15 casualties. In Ha Tinh on Dec. 7, two F4s dropped 4 CBUS on Ky Lam village, killing or wound-ing to people working in the field.

Is Nghe As on Dec. 9, at 10. 55 hours, U.S. planes fired 2 Shrike missiles on fired 2 Shrike missiles on Nghi Khash village, 12 kms north-east of Vinh city.

1, 2, 3, and 4 U.S. planes attacked 7 times with demo-lition and steel pellet bombs a State farm and 4 populous points in Vinh Son village located in the Demilitarized Zone and two odigining

Besides, U.S. artillery based south of the Demilitarized Zone and from U.S. warships Zone and from U.S. warmings made nine shellings in three days (Dec. 4, 5 and 13) firing 130 rounds on 3 villages in the northern part of the Demilitarized Zone; the USS New Jersey on Dec. 3 and 5. slammed twelve big shells into Vinh Son village, causing considerable damage to people's property.

HE communique remarked in conclusion that such frantic acts of war belied the words of peace of

THE outgoing year is thus a year of unprocedented victories of the South Vietnamese people and armed

These tremendous successes can be ascribed to:

The sound revolutionary line worked out by the NFL.

The matchess valour and afforts of the entire South Vistuances people who have brought into full play their tradition of thorough revolutionary spirit, their undanatedness and their supreme heroian in the struggle for the control of the control o independence, freedom, democracy, peace and national

- The wholehearted sup-port of socialist North Viet Nam - the great and solid rear area of the whole

- The sympathy and sup port and substantial assists. of the socialist camp and the growing sympathy and sup-port of the world's people and of the U.S. progressives

THE communique ended with a call for match-fulness in face of the utter obduracy of the U.S. imperialists whese defeat is but a foregone conclusion!

VIET NAM COUDIED

THE NORTH-GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

dered away in dealening blasts while American bombs fell in thick clusters.

Le Thi Lien gently placed her dezing daughter on the bamboo bed and, after edging her way out of the shalter she made directly for the village border. Eagerly abs seized an ammunition case and swung it onto her shoultely tilt on one side. Hardly noticing the heavy weight, she began running as fast as her legs could carry her in the direction from which came the "command" toccame the "command" toc-sin, just as in the days of her maideshood. The front part of her shirt was caked with a thick layer of milk. An elderly co-op farmer

"Hey there, who asked you to come? Your babe is just a few months old!"

Lien replied:

"Nobody asked me, but I thrught of Sung and I couldn't not bear staying home. And I do not carry much, you see". PHE man Lien referred to as

Sungwas company politi-cal instructor Dang Ngoc Sung of the anti-aircraft regiment X. On june 9, 1958, in the thick of a battle against U.S. aircraft, as he against U.S. aircraft, as he was standing at his command post high on a gun site, a bomb fall nearby, burying him under half a metre of carth. No sooner had he struggled out than another knocked him down bomb knocked him down mto a combat trench a dozen yarda away. His ears were all drumning. He tried to rise to his feet but in vain: a bomb splinter had allied off part of his left heel, baring the bone. Another splinter stuck in his side. The command staff ordered The command stair ordered him to leave the gun empla-cement. But he insisted on being allowed to stay and continue directing the fight. The sun was blazing scor-chingly. Sweat and conguIN FIGHTING

ARMY AND PEOPLE IS ONENESS

lated blood made stiff patches on his clothes. As he could not walk. Sung who was also Party secretary of the company, crawled to each gun aire to instil the strength of the Party leadership into each fighter and pass them the order from higher qui hand had sunk behind the strength of the party leadership and the party leadership

the mountain range. The American planes went down in the area.

In the area.

Only then did Sung let himself be placed on a stretcher and taken to hospital.

Many local people who were also under treatment there came to inquire about his feats. But Sung only smiled and said unassumingly : "Well, it was nothing very nousual".

And he recounted to them the courageous deeds of ma-ny other men in his regiment. The patients, after recovillage and spread round the stories told by Sung.

NE day, as they returned from a grass - cutting trip, three girls,
Lien, Dao and Kinh, saw a
row of cooking pots filled
with rice and vegetables
lined up along the bamboo
groves whose tops had been cuncated by American be They quickly gathered that the men of Regiment X had just left for an emergency mission, having no time to take their lunch. It was nearly noon. The girls were nearly moon. The guris were themselves tormented by hunger and at first decided to go home for lunch then come back and carry foods to the armymen. But the story of army cook Kiem which they had just heard

at the medical station was fresh in their mind. It is like this: Klem returning from the Klem returning from the state of the way at visit his family with 50 klograms of food for his unit chang ling on his shoulder pube willage. He came home only to find that hisborother had been killed by an American bomb and his could be a smalled by the country of the state of the wife who had just been taken out of a smanched shelter was still unconscious. However atili unconaciona. However, overcoming his grief, after burying his brother and cheering up his wife, he set out again, cros-ning the field while the

sing the field while the bombing was still going on to catch up with his unit which by now had gone a score mikes away.

Some mikes away. gun carriages.

THEN there was the story of Miss Hoán calling a meeting of her production team to discuss measures to combat peet. Before what should be done, Hoan reminded all present of the action of four members of Regiment X who used an anti-alreration to sink an American gun to sink an American nemando bost.

commando boat.

That day Ba's crew consisted of barely four men from four different branches. Thin was a worker at an arms anufacture. An came from a signal unit Lien was scout. Only Ba was a gunner. The four were engaged in drilling to become "wereatile fighters"

taking advantage of the misty weather. approached the coast. What a fat target? Should they let the chance slip when the enemy had brought himself up to right All members of Hoa's Dic mind the story and felt stronger in their determination to combat the insects with their own means - insecticide, herbs, soot, kitchen in front of their gun muss But had any book ever taught them to fire at a ship with an anti-sircraft oun? Never EARNING from, and emu theless, keeping to the ground rule of revolutionary war, namely to fight the enemy with any weapon at your disposal and be always on the offensive, the four decided

to open up at the ship barrel of their gun los

parrel of their gun lowered slowly. After carefully taking aim, they let off the first round which bore into the ship's cabin. Wi hout hesi

tation, they now fired a long burst. The marauding craft, hit almost at point blank.

was ripped open and went to the bottom instantly before

it could return a single shot.

lating, one another, the in Vinh Liph have hor ourably fulfilled their tasks and have defeated the U.S. war of destruction against their locality. Anti-aircraft Regi-ment X alone has shot down log U.S. planes, effectiveld defending the lives any property of the people. In return, the people Linh, enjoying effec-tection from the or achieved gond production, and successes in the fighting, and supplied good heep to the fighters.



Sword-drill by Y. village (Ha Tay province) militiamen

The "Radar Boy"

EDITOR'S NOTE: Within over 1,000 days, the U.S. carried EDITOR'S NOTE: Within over 1.000 days, the U.S. carried out nearly foo air and, noval bombardnests on a village is Nghe An province, North Vist Mani. Yet, only a few persons were injured. A share of this civil defense exploit general little boy whose story is told by Nhess exploit general in the province. Following is a vilghtly shridged version of it:

explosive charge, and hung it on a solid triped installed on an air-raid warning shelter. EVERY day, after class time, Ta Quang Ty, 11, loitered around the combat positions of his village militia and insisted on Leing to the combatted on Leing to the combatted on th given something to do in the fight against U.S. planes.

"Let me stand guard so you may have one more fighting man", he told Nguyen Van Son, the plane-hunting group

The request was referred to the Secretary of the village Party Committee. After weighing the prox and cons, he said to the group leader;

"All right, there can be no age limit when it comes to fighting the U.S. aggressors. Give him an alarm gong." The militian en soon brought back a dud bomb, took off the

an air-nasi wareing sauth,

Ty was overjoyed at the
assignment, not only because
it suited his temperament. An
american missile had hilled
Hai and Thang, two close
class-matter of his. American
bombs had also hilled a dozen
other basile and levalled his other pupils and levelled his school.

"What right have the Yanks to come here, and why are they so cruel"?. The question came back every now and then to his

become a jet pilot or an antiaircraft gunner to give the U.S. air pirates the pumish-ing blows they deserved.

Unfortunately he was still a small boy ...

"Wall " he said to himself "I'll use my-ours, my ears and my hands to give prompt marn-ings to the villagers against -coming planes."

On late afternoons, when the shy turned light blue and the breeze briskly pushed the brown sails towards the shore, brown saiss towards the torto.
Ty, standing at his look-out,
wished he could give just one
strohe at the bomb shell, indicating that no plane was in
sight and that the villagers
might go on with their might go on with & work. Unfortunately safternoons were very rare! afternooms ware very rure?

On rainy nights, when the houl of the sea wind minglet with the rear of warplanes or the rumble of warships. To would come out of his shelter

would come out of his sheller and try to distinguish between the murmur of his " native sea" and " the noise made by the enemy". He wished he gould quickly

What a difficulty, indeed !

perly to the villagers could go on sleeping when they could, or get up and ost to theshelters when they had to.

"Keep your ears priched up and your eyes shinned, "This counsel from group leader Son was always in Ty's mind.

By continually watching the movement of enemy planes, Ty gradually got used to every one of their tricks and could make rather good guesses of

Every time he struck the bomb case twice, the villagers understood that the plants were only flying past. When the plants were about to dive, he gave three beats. Often, after sounding the alarm he had just time to jump into the shelter before the bombs exploded. The bomb-tocsin itself was hit ma ny times by bomb splinters. Once the annuy fired a burs. of 20mm cannon fire on his shelter. The bullets whitzed a shelter. The builts whitzed a few feet past the bach of his nack. But Ty was not scared for he was able always to see the enemy's intentions. Once the planes were virtually shimming the coast. Yet. Ty struck twice. In the hamists,

ing, while on the river the boats continued to ferry passencers.

That battern of life has been That pattern of tife has been going on for nearly four years now in village T., Quymh Luu district, Ngho An province, Ta Quang Ty has for more than 1,000 days stood guard beside his bomb-tocsin and has used up five hammers striking at the bomb shall which itself has caved in on one side. U.S. blanes and warships have car-relad out warshy 600 obmbard-ments against the cillage, but only a few among the villagers were wounded. This was thanks to the good shelters, the good defence, and also the prompt alorts sounded by the cool-head-ed little bounded. blames and morehide base car-

only a Hash of ties streaking out of a high and distant cloud. He struck three times. The villagers jumped into the shee they were, an air-to-ground missile had crashed into the village, followed by an enemy

have been thinking more highly of Ta Quang Ty and nicknaming kim the "Radar Boy"

On Dec. 20, 1860 the NFL was born in South Viet Nam EIGHT YEARS OF STRUGGLE, STRUGGLE, Ann problem. Thus, willy slip, they have back settlement of the South Viet Nam problem. EIGHT YEARS OF VICTORIES 1.8 this peroid of 8 years of compute the period of 8 years of 18 years of 1

Preliminary statistics show

Proliminary statistics show that during this period, reckning up to the beginning of Oct. 1968 only, close to 2 million enemy troops were killed, wounded or captured, and a large number of others disbanded. American and stellife, capablies along ran

eatallita consulties alone ran

to the region of 500,000 men Enemy material losses includ

ed more than 13,000 planes and helicopters shot down or destroyed on the ground, about 20,000 military ve-

hicles among them nearly 12,000 tanks and armoured cars destroyed, more than

1,100 war vessels, combat launches and military freight-ers sunk burnt of damaged.

Political actions by the

civilians have been staged

operations of the armed forces and have greatly contributed to the latter's victories. In

those 8 years, an estimated aggregate 140 million turn-out has been recorded in political demonstrations in varied forms and on various

At first, the slogans were meant to denounce enemy crimes, demand payment of

compensations, boycott re-actionary policies and mea-sures, secure democratic liberties and vital economic

Today they are simed at the overthrow of the pupper administration, the withdraw all of U.S. troops, the peo-

ple's right to sovereignty, independence and freedom and the re-establishment of peace. Since last "Tet",

peace. Since last "Tet", this movement has been gaining fresh momentum and has turned an armed insur-rectional drive in the whole of South Viet Nam. It has reduced to failure a strategic

plan of the aggressors; con-duct aggression under a neo-colonisist form.

Agitation werk among enemy troops has also yielded great successes. Ac-

cording to still incomplete figures, by Sept. 1968, more

than 467,000 puppet soldiers had deserted or had been disbanded. Developments on the battlefield today clearly

show that the puppet army is not viable without the backing of U.S. troops.

The victories recorded

all fields by the South Viet Nam armed forces and people in the period under review

in the period under review have made possible the emergence of a vast liberated

zone stretching from the 17th parallel to the Ca Mau point over four-fifths of South Viet

Nam's territory with two-thirds of the population. In these liberated areas, a new

Ed .- On the occasion of the 8th founding anniversary of the South I'est Nam NFL, Giai Phong Prass Agency has just released a long article reviewing the achievements of the NFL in the struggle against U.S. aggression over the past 8 years,

We give below an abridged version of the article. As for its last part devoted to the year 1968, too shall give only brief excerbts. Our readers are invited to see for more details, excerpts of the PLAF communicated in this issue.

THESE last 8 years consti-tute a decisive period in the history of the Vietnamese people's revolutionary struggle, a period marked by two op posite processes which have wholly changed the initial

- As far as the US. aggressors and their flunkeys are concerned, it has been a downbill march. They began with the massive dispatch of U.S. troops to South Viet Nam with a view to a quick victory, and now they are seeking to "de-Americanize" the war of aggression. They began by trying with all means to annihilate the South Viet annihilate the South Viet Nam people's armed forces and now they admit that a military solution to the South Viet Nam problem is not feasible and are striving hard to seek a political soluhard to seek a political solu-tion advantageous for them. They began by obstinately refusing to recognize the NFL and now they agree to enter into talks with it.

- As far as the South Vietnamese people are concerned, it has been an upward climb. They began with querilla actions by scattered forces supplied with rudimentary weapons and now they tary weapons and now they have at their disposal big and well-armed units capable of attacking even the most strongly guarded lairs of the enemy. They began with isolated uprisings against a numerically superior enemy and now they stage genera-lized uncisions. Averwhelmlized uprisings, overwh ing the enemy everywhere. As for the National Front for As for the Netional Front for Liberation, at the beginning it gathered only a restricted number of people and today it has become a powerful force, rallying under its ban-ner different social classes and strata and revolutionary organisations in South Viet Nam. is doing the duty of a and enjoys the confidence masses and a high prestige

is an undeniable fact that, from weak, the South Vietnamese people's position one strong, and that for the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys, the pro-cess has just been the other

OVER these past 8 years, the South Vietnamese people, who have been resisting the biggest army of aggression history has ever known, have been winning

political power, revolutionary power, really representing the legitimate interests and aspirations of the people, has been established or is in the making in many localities. In fact, the puppet administra-tion now controls, and superficially at that, only some sectors, in the cities and along a number of arteries.

The NFL leads, organizes and mobilizes the South Vietand mobilizes the South Viet-namese people in the resis-tance to U.S. aggression. It finds growing favour in the eyes of various strata of the people, including those in the cities and areas still under enemy control. The VietNam Altience of Netional. Democratic and Peace Forces which approves the Political Programme of the Front and its 5 points has spelled out the Front's influence among the urban population and marked a new expression of the bloc of national union in the struggle against U.S. aggression, for national sal-

In the international arene, the credit of the Front also constantly grows. Up to now, the Front has established 21 representations and 2 infor-mation bureaux abroad and has sent 168 delegations to international, regional and national conferences and 237 delegations on friendly visits many countries. Its affiliated organizations are members of 11 international

organizations. Although the U.S. aggressors still refuse to recognize the Front, they have been compelled to accept talks with the Front's representa-

year 1888 incontestably, occupies a particularly impor-tant place.

The South Vietnamese people have won, since the attacks and uprisings on the night of Jan. 30, 1968 great, multilateral and strategically significant victories. Their resistance to U.S. aggression has thus entered into a new paried, the period of outburn period, the period of outburnt of impetuous and sustained attacks and uprisings, forerun-ners of final victory. For the enemy, this is a period of irresistible gliding toward his

ultimate doom. Parallel to the prodigious growth of the Liberation Army in all fields, the guerilla has also made enormous progress. In the first 6 months of the generalised attacks and uprisings, the militis, guerillas and armed population took a toll of nearly 60,000 enemy casual-ties, shot down, destroyed or damaged 450 planes and heli copters, wrecked 1,300 milicopters, wrecked 1,300 mili-tary vehicles, razed more than 700 posts and seized about 3,000 weapons of different

Backed by the impetuous Backed by the impact of the plar, the armed uprisings of their provided the people in turn provided support for the latter's operations by making away with cruel thugs, breaking the enemy's grip, cutting com-munication lines and besieging

Like the armed uprisings, Like the armed uprinings, the unarmed political strug-gle of the popular masses has experienced a new deve-lopment. According to attill incomplete statistics, since last "Tet", the aggregate total participation in politi-cal struggle in South Viet Nam has reached the 20-million mark.

One of the striking features of the situation is the eve

The data that strains described in the strains of the peck-ple in the movement of spiteline among the pupper and data. The strains of the peck-ple in the movement of the strains of the s of puppet armymen provoked, in 8 months, a disintegrating process which affected 7,000 nemy soldiers.

Compared with the previous years, the total number of mutinies and revolts staged by officers and men of the

The morale of U.S. troops has also been sinking criti-cally. In all U.S. divisions, numerous GI's, seized with fear, sougth to avoid combat with the PLAF, deserted to with the PLAF, deserted to take refuge in major cities, refused to take part in military operations, and demanded repatriation. Cases of GI's surrendering to the PLAF were also recorded.

The victories of the South Viet Nam people and their armed forces, the culargement of the liberated zone the growing prestige of the NFL, at home and abroad, have made it possible to puwer at various levels. This new event has given rise in the liberated rural areas to a new atmosphere of over flowing zeal and enthusiasm

The new power continued to distribute land to those peasants who lack it and helps them, in particular, to organize themvelves into mutual-aid teams with a view to boosting production.
Great attention has been paid to the development of education, health and cultur-

Cloquent Figures

South Viet Nam Liberated Areas Constantly Strengthened and Widened

N he first 45 days of liberating 13 more villages the generalised attacks and 51 more handlets with a pearly spring this year alone carly spring this year alone, thousands of enemy-built "trategic handlets" were 1568, nearly 200 village 1568. "strategic hamlets" were destroyed and more than 1.6 million people liberated. In the Quang Tri – Thua Thien – Hue sector, the local armed forces and peo-ple liberated most of the rural areas and even seized rural areas and even setzed control of key populated areas on the outer fringe of Hue city: 330,000 of the total 380,000 inhabitants were

From Aug. 22 to Sept. 20, people in the coastal plain of Central Trung Bo launched simultaneous and widespread attacks, destroying 2,8 concentration areas and "strategic hamlets" and

1968, nearly 200 village people's liberation commit-tees had been set up in Central Nam Ho : in Centra Central Nam Bo; in Central Trung Bo, revolutionary power had been established an 450 villages. In Quang Ngai alone, by the end of Aug. 1968, revolutionary power had been instituted in 107 of the total 150 villages. Provincial and nu-nicing in negales. nicipal people's liberation committees have been elect-ed in Quang Tri, Thua Thien, Hue, Gia Lai, Quang Nam, Da Nang, Ca Mau, My Tho and Kien Phong.

- From 1960 to 1968,

the total 3 million bectares of cultivated land had been allotted to peasants in the liberated areas. The majority of the peasants has taken the path of co-operative farming (mutual-aid and work-exchange teams...)

rope had 5,994 general edu-cation schools with an over 500,000 ehrolment. In 1967, general education further developed and many more schools were built in the liberated hamlets and villages close to enemy posts. In Western Nam Bo, there are at present 1,671 primary schools and 10 elementary schools with nearly 100,000 pupils. In Central Nam Be 1,250 new primary and elementary classes have been onened for 42,000 pupils.

THE 24th anniversary of the founding of the VNPA, one of the prin-

cipal instruments of people's revolutionary strug-gle for national independence and socialism, was solemnly observed in our country at the same time with the 23rd the same time with the 23rd anniversary of the First National Resistance. At a grand meeting hild in Hanoi on Dec. 2t in the presence of President Ho Chi Minh and leading Party and Go-vernment officials, General Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Viet Num Workers' Party,

ed an important speech. ed an important speech.

The speaker, with his
usual insight, made an
analysis of the military succeases obtained by our people
in their struggle against U.S.
aggression in both parts of
our country and drew therefrom the indispensable les-

In the South, the General said, the people and their armed forces have been going from one victory to another and are sure of still bigger successes and of final victory; for its part, "the socialist North has proved to be a steel remnart and our whole steel rampart and our whole Viet Nam a fortress. Any aggressor who shuts his eyes to this reality and who, under illusions, persists in his attempt against our country, will inevitably court shameful failure."

From the victories of our people, he drew a historic, clear-cut conclusion: "In our era, a people, even with a not very vast territory and

not very large population, but courageously standing up in the struggle for their independence and freedom, armed with a correct line, armed with a correct nise, fired by a great determination to fight and at the same time knowing how to fight, will agreement, be it defeat any aggressor, be it U.S. imperia

The apeaker pointed out that the successes won by the Vietnamese people origi-nate from two primordial factors: "the correct and creative line of our Party" and "the centuries-old his

For more than 20 centuries For more than 20 centuries now, the Vistramese have been waging a relentless struggle against foreign aggression to build up an independent State and Nation. This struggle has forged a very profound national sentiment and an unshakable will to asfeguard the independence and unity of the Fatherland.

The general then dwelled on the revolutionary and the military line of the Viet Nam Workers' Party.

"These lines", he said "are Marxism-Leninism imagina-tively applied to Vietnamese realities. They reflect the spirit of thorough-going revo-lution of the working class of our country, the traditions of struggle of our Nation against foreign aggression, the course and intelligence of the pusand intelligence of the pus-sionately patriotic Vietnam-ese man. They are at the same time the expression of the finest revolutionary vir-tues of progressive markind".

The VNWP, in general

Gisp's words, has defined our Resistance to U.S. ag-gression as "a revolutionary people's war, a war of na-tional liberation versus a neo-colonialist war of aggres sion of U.S. imperialism (...), a people's war fought under the leadership of the working class and on an unprecedented

class and on an unprecedented scale, a war waged by the entire people, in all fields, of long duration and by relying essentially on their own forces, an inevitably winning war".

OUR COUNTRY WILL INEVITABLY COURT SHAMEFUL FAILURE"

ACCRESSOR WHO PERSISTS IN HIS ATTEMPT ACAINST

(From General Vo Neuven Giap's Speech at the ceremony commemorating the founding of the Viet Nam People's Army)

The speaker pointed out

Enlightened by a penetrat-ing understanding of the character of our epoch and the offensive strategy of the world resolution, our Party has resorted to this strategy in resorted to this strategy in Viet Nam and to revolu-tionary violence of the peo-ple by combining armed struggle with mass political action in a resolute and uninterrupted offensive in all fields and in all forms. It has thus defeated the U.S.

aggressors in spite of their ferocity and their enormous economic and military po-

By enhancing the patrio-tism of our people with Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, our Party has developed and raised to the highest degree the revolutionary heroism of our people — the source of our cresent irresistible strength.

It is on this political and ideological basis that a Vietnamese military science and art has been developed with a strategy, tactics and a guiding thought in the conduct of the operations

In the concluding part of his speech, General Vo Nguyen Giap warned us against the obduracy of the U.S. imperialists who, though battered without let-up, still nurter aggressive designs against our people in both zones and stop at nothing to realize them. He re-affirmed the certainty of our total victory - the inevitable outcome of the realities in Viet Nam, as well as

and in the building of the people's armed forces, judi-clous, effective and suitable completely defeat the Yankee country, our means and our this stern warming; "In this stern warning: "In Nam is the millenary legacy of our people; the Yankee aggressor will be utterly unable to find any cover".

> In our next issue, we shall publish large excerpts from General Vo Nemven Gian's important speech



U.S. bomb and mines have never succeeded in hampering the traffic of feeries over Nehe An Province rivers

- In the liberated sone, three-fourths of the total number of districts have each an assistant doctor and MORE PUPPET ARMYMEN OPPOSE on an average there is one assistant doctor or one doctor for every to,ooo in-habitants, and one nurse for every 1,200 inhabitants; each village has from 10 to 30 medical workers. Dispensaries, infirmaries, hos-pitals are found in all areas. At present, there are in the liberated zone a medical college and 6 schools training

— In the first 3 months of 1958, the Liberation Publishing House printed more than 15,000 books of different kinds; more than 45,000 copies of newspapers and more than 40,000 leaflets and posters were put out. The Liberation Film Studio distributed many valuable documentaries. There are now in the liberated areas 49 papers and reviews run central, regional, provncial and municipal authoincial and municipal authorities. Major papers, such as Giai Phong (Liberation), Quan Giai Phong (Liberation Army) and Tien Phong (Vanguard) have been widely circulated even in areas

NDER the impact of the great military, political and diplomatic successes of the NFL, a growing war arresisting puper arraymen amount of puper arraymen among the puper among the pupe number of puppet armymen have been turning their guns on U.S. advisers and wicked thuge or staging collective mutinies, and crossing over to the people's side.

In Tay Ninh province, on Dec. 8, 1968 soldiers of Ran ger Company 343 stationed at Katum (riokm Northwest of Saigon) rebelled. They opened fire on the CP, killing a U.S. major, adviser to unit, and number of cruel U.S. agents. Next day, Ranger companies 344 and 345 were companies 344 and 345 were called to replace the revolt-ing unit. Shocked upon their arrival by the drastic repres-sion of the U.S. advisers and their conf-derate, the two companies followed suit with anti war actions: they burnt their uniforms, flung away

two war-resisting puppet Ranger platoons had disobey-ed their commanders' order to go on a foray mission. In Long An province, 5

recorded in November, staged recorded in November, staged by many soldiers of Battalion 1 and Battalion 3 of Regi-ment 49, puppet Division 25, who resisted marching orders, declared their break away with the Thien-Ky adminis-tration and asked to return to their families. All told, 360 men of the said division left their ranks for home or joined the PLAF.

What is most remarkable is that in the 3 months ending Oct. 31, 3,065 puppet armymen stationed in Can The deserted or mutinied. A number of them fought in coordination with the company and one civil-guard families. company deserted. So did 140 soldiers of another 200-man unit. On Nov. 40, as many

WAR OR RUN AWAY

In Soc Trung provin to soil rang province, to soldiers of puppet regular Regiment 31 deserted in a week (Nov. 8 – Nov. 15) and on Nov. 9, 58 men of Battalion 1, Regiment 31 left for home.

Hundreds of other puppet armymen ran away or mutinied in My Tho, Rach Gia and Ca Mau provinces.

In My Tho, Security Forces Company 172 broke away en masse on Nov. 28. Three hundred officers and

Military Training Camp deserted in November. In the capital of this province, 23 puppet policemen left their unit and rejoined their

On Nov. 30, members of Battalion 3, pupper Regiment 32 ran away while moving out on a raid in Ca Mau province. Hundreds of puppet armymen left their ranks in Rach Gia in the b days ending Nov. 9.

These mutinies and deser riese mutines and deser-tions are only samples of a widespread break away move-ment throughout South Viet Nam in recont days. They reflect the anxiety, fear and dejection now ram, ant among South Victuam puppet army men, as an effect of the men, as an elect of the successive victories of the PLAF. They also confirm the increasing realization of papper armymen of the sustice of the NFL's cause.

THE VIET NAM AND THE WORLD

From May 17, 1964. to Dec. 13, 1968



900 U.S. planes downed in Laos

THE U.S. has been for more than 4 years now committing its air force to a direct aggression against Laos and savage bombing on its territory. At the same its territory. At the same Lao puppet troops to nibble liberated areas under Haksat and the patriotic neutrelist forces. Thus the U.S. "special war" has been U.S. "special war" has been considerably escalated. Since early Nov. this year, the U.S. imperialists have been stepping up their air raids in Laos. Hundreds of sorties by let planes of various kinds and tens of missions by B52 superfortresses have been carried out daily, wantonly raining bombs over and townlets in the liberated areas. In its Dec. 10 issue, " Baltimore Sun " disclosed that U.S. aircraft had made in Lams 2.021 sorties in Sept. 1968, 4.749 in Oct. and 12,724 in Nov : that the tensity of their activities had increased, probably with the agreement of the Lao B52 bombers flow an average of 32 missions a day in Dec. 1068 against a total of five

on Dec. 12 disclosed that the

in New York in March 1968.

As night falls on the other side of the Globe, the armed forces of the

strongest nation in the world

South Vietnamese countryside to the Viet Cong.

What does this mean?

surrender 85 percent of the

At the end of a 'search-

and-destroy' operation, 'he Viet Cong slip back into the

UDI

Editor's note: We seprint below the views of Dr Baniamin

Spoch, the lamous American paedistrist and staunch war

exister who reciped a time years' jail term last fully for his

participation in the movement against the Viet Nam way.

These views are to be found in his book on Viet Nam published

Unites States had more than doubled its air raids over Lans since Nov. and up to into Laus daily.

The U.S. imperialists have committed innumerable crimes against the Lao people in a hope to subdue them. but they have sustained very beavy defeats over the four years, and the Lao patriotic forces and people recorded the biggest victories ever in their history of fighting for More than 100,000 U.S.-fostered puppet troops were wiped out and goo U.S. aircraft shot down or destroyed on the ground in that

From the beginning of November to mid-Decer more U.S. planes were knocked down in Laon than is the five-month period of the 1968 rainy season. From Dec. 4 to 13, the Lao patriots in Pa Thi, Sam Neua province, grounded 8 U.S. aircraft with infantry guns.

Prince Souphanouvong his letter of congratulation to the Lao patriotic forces and people on the occasion of the downing of the gooth U.S.

plane in Laos, said :

"The downing or wrecking on the ground by the Lao patriotic forces and people 900 U.S. aircraft proves he complete correctness of the line of people's war mapped out by the Neo Lao Haksat Central Committee and the unbending spirit of the Lao people fighting for independence and freedom".

The Vietnamese people enthusiastically welcome new successes of the patriotic forces and people of Laos.
They fully support the Political Programme of the Neo Lao Haksat which has laid down the correct basis for the settlement of the Lao problem. We resolutely demand that the U.S. stop immediately its bombard-ments of the liberated zone of Lans. The U.S. must strictly implement the 106x 22 1068 Geneva Agreements on Laos, respect the sovereignty, Thus all U.S. "menace" and diplomatic "pressure" independence, pentrality and territorial integrity of Lace,

and let the Lao people settle own internal affairs on the basis of the 1962 Geneva Agreements and in accordance with the present realities Why Did the NFL Secure the Control of Such An Extensive Area in South Viet Nam?

with impunity its "gun-

U.S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge said much the same thing: "For years now in Southeast Asia, the only ocople who have been doing anything about the

a day: "Time to turn the country over to the VC" How has the National Liberation Front (NFL or Vietcong) gained this kind of control?

A New York Times reporter

quotes a young American

"The military flatly refuto classify any road Our government says that night", reports the New York Times (July 13, 1957), "not even the fourlane, in the country as safe at the answer is terrorism - that the South Vietnamese support the Viet Cong only because they are afraid. This is false 15-mile expressway that links Even former Premier Ky, now Vice-President of South sigon with Bien Hoa". Only one out of every six Viet Nam, admitted that the people of South Viet Saigon-appointed hamlet chiefs feels safe enough in Nam support the Viet Cong his own hamlet to stay

ed about the common man in Viet Nam. for positive reasons, not jus out of fear. In 1063 he told New York Times reporter James Reston that the Viet Cong "are closer to the people's yearning for social

Unlike the government in Saigon, which tolerates exploitation of poor farmers and workers, favoritism, inflation, profiteering and lack

justice and an independent than his own government (New York Times. Sept. 1, 1965).

man at the grass roots — to lift him up — have been the communists" (New York

the government troops and officials out of a district, the civilian arm of the Times, Feb. 27, 1966). NFL assumes the responsi Ambassador Lodge was bilities of government. mistaken in implying that the Vist Cong is entirely made up of "the com-munists" — as the surveys some areas, the NFL has been the real government for years. Perhaps once in two years the Saigon army reported by the New York Times make clear, most moves through the area and tries to reassert control over Viet Cong soldiers do not the people. But as soon as the army moves on, the NFL moves back in. In considers themselves comnunists. But he was right these areas it maintains in saving that they have been the only ones concernorder, collects taxes, runs schools and administer

courts. According to Drew Pearson, Secretary of State Dean Rusk admitted to the Senate Foreign Relations

On the Pueblo Incident

Korean People's Victory Hailed

very nose of the

U.S. imperialists, the latter

could only utter ridiculous

" threats" and finally had to

fore, is a band blow at the

Recalling that the U.S.

raling circles retracted their

admission and apology soon

after the Pueble crew had

been sent home, the paper

commented: "Such base

ness only sheds a stronger

light on the obstinute and treacherous nature of

Together with the world

peoples, the paper concluded,

the Vietnamere people warm-

ly welcome the Korean people

and their armed forces for

having taught the U.S. a

people consider this a com

mon victory for the two

peoples over the same enemy,

fight against U.S. aggression

for national salvation

the U.S. imperialists ".

The Pueblo incident, there

apologize for their crime.

so called U.S. " might ".

boat" policy against Asian a commentary on Dec. peoples. Formerly the U.S. 25, 1968 the Hanoi daily Nhan Dan, central organ could, with a tiny warship intimidate a small nation. But the Viet Nam Workers' Party, hailed the decision of now, although such a most the DPRK Government reun to date armed ship and its entire crew had been garding the U.S. spy ship captured by the Korean Pueblo and its crew. people's armed forces under

After lame denials the U.S. Government at last had to acknowledge that its armed spy ship Pueble had conducted espionage and heatile note after intruding into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, U.S. Army Major General Gilbert H. Woodward on behalf of the U.S. Covernment signed anapology to the DPRK Government on Dec.

have not been able to save the U.S. Government humiliation of admitting its crime the paper added. As pointed out by the spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry, this means an ignominious defeat for the U.S. imperialist aggressors and constitutes good lesson. The Vietnamese another great victory for the Korean people who have shattered the myth of U.S. might. The Purble incident proves that the time has gone for the U.S. to use

of schooling except for the rich, the NFL is facing up

to South Viet Nam's pro-

Once the Viet Cong run

been paying tells to the NFL to allow their trucks to pass through Viet Cong

Iowa Republican Senator Hickenlooper has estimated that the area the NFL controls is on the order of tunn - thirds of South Viet Nam. In these areas, they have begun to deal with the basic social and economic

The schools which they have established all over South Vist Non use from and a bright Vietnamese child will go as far as his intelligence and industrious ness can carry him.

Their land reform is straightforward: "To the tillers belongs the soil". If man and his family work a certain piece of land, it belongs to them.

NFL and DRVN Delegations' Joint Communiqué on U.S. Puppets' Holding Up Paris Conference

(Continued from page 1)

elapsed without any result being achieved.

2. Not until December 1968, under the pressure of the South Vietnamese people and of world public opinion, did the Saigon administration send to Paris a delegation send to Paris a delegation headed by the bellicose pup-pet Nguyen Cao Ky who has never failed to express his worship for Hitler that he considers as his master. Since then, the attitude of the Thieu-Ky-Huong administra-tion has more and more proved to be a great obstacle to the holding of the confe-

They have even availed themselves of the procedural discussions, usual and natural before any conference may begin, to hamper the conference. Both the Saigon administration and the U.S. have stuck to their abourd viewpoint of a "two-side" con-Saigon administration on one and the DRVN South Viet Name on the other - whereas there are in fact four delegations. They have refused to recogoize the Front as an inde-pendent and oqual party to the conference, thus trying to deny the just struggle of the South Vietnamese people and refusing to admit the role of the South Viet Nam N.F.L., the organizer and lender of the South Vietnamleader of the South Vietnam-ese people's struggle against the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys, and the authentic representative of the South representative of the South Victnamese people. This is precisely why the U.S. and the Saigon administration have demanded that the seats of the four delegations be a ranged along two sides, at a ranged along two sides, at a long rectangular table, or at an oval or round table split into two parts, thus carrying out into effect their

For its part, with the consent of the Delegation of the South Viet Nam NFL, and basing itself on the fact that there are actually four delegations to the conference and on the principle that and has equal rights, the delegation of the DRVN has suggested that the seats be arranged on the four sides of either a square or a diamond-shaped table, each delegation occupying one side,

ous viewpoint.

TO THE READER

We are aware that there is much room for improve-ment in the wording of our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your suggestions as they will without any discrimination. But the U.S. and the Saigon administration have turned down such a sensible arrangement. Once more to show its goodwill, the delegation of the DRVN, with the coverage of the delegation. the consent of the delegation of the NFL, proposed that sented around a circulatable. According to this pro-posal, the four delegations will sit around a non-splicircular table, each of them sitting where it chooses. If the problem of the conference table can be solved in such a reasonable and sensible way, all other procedural problems will no doubt be, settled rapidly and easily. But to this day neither the U.S. nor the Saigon administration have accepted thin seating arrangement.

In the meantime, the U.S. and the Saigon administra-tion have perpetrated new crimes in Viet Nam. In the crimes in viet Nam. In the South, they have intensified the war, carried out the "accelerated pacification" plan, tried to concentrate the population, increased indis-criminate B.5s bombings on criminate B.53 bombings on populous areas, and stepped up toxic-chemical sprayings. Moreover, the Saigon administration is doing its utmost army, persecuted all groups of people and individuals that stand for peace, neutrality and talles with the South Viet Nam NFL. In North Viet Ram, in contradiction son's October 31 declaration. son's October 31 declaration, the U.S. has continued re-connaissance flights and aircommissance mights and artacks against a number of localities lying between the 17th and 19th parallels, thus infringing upon the sovereignty and jeopardizing security of the DRVN.

The above-mentioned facts prove that the U.S. has not prove that the U.S. has not yet renounced its scheme of aggression and is still trying to maintain the Saigon admi-nistration as an instrument for the furtherance of neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam, and that the Thieu-Ky Nam, and that the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique are still trying to cling to the U.S. aggres-sors so as to continue the war and to live on the people blood and sweat.

3. The Delegation of the South Viet Nam NFL and the Delegation of the governmen of the DRVN reaffirm their of the DRVN realfirm their serious intent and goodwill towards the Paris conference and realfirm that the position of the Victnamese people on the peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam problem is the four points of the govern-ment of the DRVs, reiterate of the Conference of the Conference of the Conference of the State of the Conference of the five points on the politi-cal settlement of the South Viet Nam problem, expound-ed on November 3, 1968, by the South Viet Nam NFL. The two Delegations strongly condemn and denounce to world public opinion the fact that the U.S. and the Saigon administration bave availed themselves of the procedural discussions to delay the Nam. If the U.S. really wants the Paris conference to open in order to proceed rapidly to substantial discussion. leading to an 'honorable peace" in Viet Nam as it has often declared, the repre-sentatives of the U.S. and of the Saigon administration must immediately sit at the circular table proposed by the Delegations of the DRVN and of the South Viet Nam

So long as the U.S. main-tains the Thieu-Ky-Huons clique—a puppet, dictatorial, bellicose and corrupt administration which is trying by all means to sabounge the Paris conference on Viet Nam — it will be difficult for — it will be difficult for the conference to start and even if it can start, it will be difficult for it to bring about any result, due to the obstacles created by the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique. The South Viet Nam people are passionately fighting for the overthrow of the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique, and for the overthrow of the Thien-Ky-Huong clique, and for the immediate establishment of a peace cabinet that would approve of talks with the South Vist Nam NFL and of the metiological in the form the participation in the four-party conference in order to party conference in order to find a peaceful settlement of the South Viet Nam pro-blem. This is a legitimate demand which enjoys the support of large sectors of public opinion.

All peace and justice-loving people in the world including the American people are looking forward to the carly holding of the four-party conference in Paris. party conference in Paris, and are demanding that the U.S. put an end to its agression, definitively stop all infringements upon the sovereignty and threats to the security of the DRVN, withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, and let the South Viet. and let the South Vict-namese people settle them-selves their own affairs. without foreign interference without foreign interference,
see that they can build an
independent, democratic,
peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam and
advance toward the peaceful
in conformity with the fundependent arriariales of the damental principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements of Viet Nam. If the U.S. and the Saigon administration keep to their present obdu-rate attitude, they must bear full responsibility and will necessarily meet with fai-

On the release of 3 American POW's

PLAF Eastern Nam Bo Command Ready To Meet Again U.S. Representatives

A Scarlier reported by Giai Phong Press Agency, the Command of the PLAF in Eastern Nam Bo on December 19 fixed the time and place for a meeting with the representatives of the Command of the I's orces in South Viet Nam to discuss the procedures con-

On Dec. 25, the U.S. Command sent their representa-tives to the agreed place, but those representatives refused to discuss the procedures required for the pre-

POW's. That is why the meeting failed to achieve

On Dec. 28 the spokesman of the PLAF Eastern Nam Bo Command in a statement annoused that they agreed to a new U.S. proposal for a second meeting with a view to discussing procedures concerning the release of 3 American POW's. American POW's, the tement emphasized, are anxious to see that the U.S. Command adopt a correct attitude at this new meeting so as to enable their prompreturn to their homes.

Saigon and Can Tho ...

(Continued from dage 2)

Thieu Ky Huong clique, for-mation of a peace cabinet and acrious talks with the NFL o re-establish peace and end war, Giai Phong Prees

South Viet Nam. They also condemned the U.S. imperial-ist aggressors and demanded that they quit South Viet to re-establish peace and each the wat, Gail Pheng Press the wat, Gail Pheng Press between the peace of the p Nam and remove their milit ary bases there. Many speak ers were of the opinion that "because of foreign (i.e. U.S.) interference, the Vietnamase people suffered destruction and death from the wax. To "masterminded by foreign-ers" (i.e. the Americans) and that it had been sent to Paris only to sabotage the conference. They demanded the formation of a peace government which "really wants to negotiate with the NFL" so as to bring real peace and independence to position is unequivocal and widely known at home and abroad."

and death from the war. To end the war and restore peace, foreign (i.e. U.S.) troops must be withdrawn from South Viet Nam and all foreign military bases dis-mantled. South Viet Nam from South Viet Nam and all foreign military bases dis-mantled. South Viet Nam must have peace and inde-pendence and be made free from foreign influence. Every Victnamese must work for these goals."
All the representatives expressed approval and expressed approval and support for the just cause of the NFL. Some of them said, "The Front advocates the setting up of a coalition government and neutrality for South Viet Nam. This

VIETNAMESE STUDIES

No 18-10: South Viel Num: Data and Prospects

You will find seticles on:

- The essential characteristics of the South Vietnamese revolution:

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The period from 1954 to 1960;

The "special war" (1961-1965)

- The three years of "local war" (1965-1968);

- American crimes in Viet Nam;

The policy of the National Front for Liberation and the bases for a valid settlement.

VIET NAM COURIES

overnight.

ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

MILITARY OPERATIONS

HEAVY U.S. - PUPPET LOSSES IN 3 DAYS

(Dec. 21 - Dec. 23)

- A position completely destroyed near Tay Ninh: 1 battalion and 2 companies wiped out, more than 600 men put out of action.
- Another puppet battalion completely wiped out East of Saigon.
 Two road convoys ambushed: 36 vehicles including I tanks and armoured troop carriers destroyed, 160 GI's killed or wounded and 8 attreat?
- brought down after 25 minutes' fighting near Tay Ninh; 22 lorries and 5 helicopters wrecked and some 100 GI's put out of action by PLAF artillery near the 17th parallel.

 Da Nang, Kontum and Cu Hanh (Pleiku) airfields heavily pounded in the same night (Dec. 22 to Dec. 23).

THE most remarkable event of the PLAF last week's color of the PLAF last week's color of the PLAF last week's color of the PLAF last week's post of the PLAF last veek's post of the PLAF last veek's post of the plant last veek of the PLAF last veek of the plant last veek of the PLAF las

weapons seized.

On Dec. 17, at a point about zoken from Ben Cau, on Rouis 26 between Tay Ninh ambunh laid by the patriotic cost the Americans 30 vehicles destroyed (among them I tank and 6 armoured troops or wounded. In addition, 7 belicopters and I jet plane were downed in this 25 minute battle.

On the night of Dec 20, at token East of Long Rush, a district town located 35km east of Saigon smoker PLAF lightning attack writer of the Lathlion comprising 3 companies and their commanding officers. Meanwhile, in Seigen. Itself, on the occasion of the anniversary of the NFL, many NFL flags appeared in the streets, especially in the 5th and 6th districts.

On December 22, in broaddaylight, a puppet company was wiped out at about 20km East of Saigon and 8km West of Long Thanh. Further North in the Westorn Highlands, other enemy units were badly mauled. On Dec. 21, an enemy company stationed at Keng H zorg [13km Southeast of Dakto and rodem South of Da Raug came under a PLAF artilery-infantry attack and had to abandon the post. On the nights of Dec. 22 and had to abandon the post. On the nights of Dec. 22 and bardments were mounted against the airfield of Korstum (tookm South of Da Naug) where a U.S. copters were destroyed and the strength of Da Naug) where a U.S. copters South of the former, where 3 C.47 transport planes met with the same fate.

N the De Nang sector, Western news agencies reported a violent attack by the patriots against a mixed U.S. pupper positions of the patriots against a mixed U.S. pupper positions of the patriots against a mixed U.S. pupper positions of Dec. 22. The same sources aid that U.S. marines and pupper tangers rushed into the rescue of the battard troops were intercepted, heavy, On the night of Dec. 22, the big U.S. Da Nang airbase was again pounded and the RQ of the 1st Marine PLAF shells, use hit by

Giai Phong Press Agency has just released the balance aheet of the wave of offensives that took place in this sector on the night of Dec.75 (see our last issue) and resulted in 430 US-puppet casual-

N the Northermost sector of South Vist Nam, near the DMZ and on Highway Me 9, an extraordinary fast was achieved on Dec. 23 by Liberation gumers who was a subject on the sector of the

20 and 21. It landingcraft of the LCU type with their cargoes and 1 patrol boat were sunk by the patriots.

sat of Saigon.

anks and armour.

and popule's committees had and attream of the saign out of action by out of action by out of action by out of action by out of action attended by representatives must be a strain of the people, and the saign out of action by out of action of the provincial people's council and the p

chairman.

More than 1,500 people staged a meeting to welcome

REVOLUTIONARY POWER SET UP IN QUANG NAM

EARLY in Dec. 2568, a the emergence of revolution control of the c

"The entire people and armed forces of Quang Nam armed forces of Quang Nam entire the seald, "express full confidence in, and sili-out support for the NFL, and undertake to address themselves to the historic task of liberating South Viet Nam, defending South Viet Nam, defending the North and achieving the ultimate reunification of the country".



PLAF men pursuing the enemy on a river in the High-Plateaux

Saigon and Can Tho: Big Demonstrations against Puppet Clique

REPORTS from Saigon said that on the night of Dec.24 a large number of placard-carrying university and college students staged a street demonstration for restoration of peace, serious talks with the NFT, dismissal of the Thie-ty, Huong regime: and formation of a peace government.

Starting from the Saigon Students' Headquarters, the demonstrators marched through many streets and were stopped by police barely 800 metres from the residence of puppet chief Nguyen Van Thieu. Fierce clashes took place between the demonstrating students and suppressive cruel police who made about

Panic-stricken, the Saigon mayoralty next day harriedly made public a communique patting much emphasis on the fascist law to-68 promulgated by the Thies Ky Huong administration is early Nov. this year, which threatens to bring demonstrators before a military tribunal in compliance with emergency protections.

dures, in a bid to intimidate the people of Saigon, Hue and other South Vietnamese cities

COLLOWING the more than
10,000 strong Dec.4 demonstration, for 3 days
in a row ending Dec.10 thousands of people from all walks
of life in t.m. The city held
sit-ins during which they
openly demanded dismissal of
the obdurate and bellicose

(Continued page 7)